

**In the Claims:**

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method for reserving network resources within an IP network, wherein the resources are reserved by a resource manager for an application or a group of applications within a time interval defined by a start-time and a stop-time, ~~characterised in that~~ the method ~~comprises the step of comprising:~~

-guaranteeing said resources between said start-time and said stop-time, said guaranteeing being performed in advance of when said resources are allocated such that said start-time is later than a current time; and

-keeping said resources for the application after said stop-time has expired if said application still needs resources, wherein the resource manager is keeping a list of active reservations that have expired after said stop-time.

24. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein all resource reservations are ~~utilising~~ utilizing a common pool of resources.

25. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein individual start-time and stop-time are set for each application by an application client.

26. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein individual start-time and stop-time are set for each application by the resource manager.

27. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein said start-time is set to the current time.
28. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 27, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein said stop-time is set to the current time.
29. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein said stop-time is set to infinity.
30. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein charging of said resources is based on the amount of guaranteed resources.
31. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein said resources are related to the bandwidth.
32. (Previously Presented) A computer program product directly loadable into an internal memory of a router or a server within an IP network comprising the software code portions for performing the steps of claim 23.
33. (Previously Presented) A computer program product stored on a computer usable medium, comprising readable program for causing a resource manager in a server or a router within an IP network to control the execution of the steps of claim 23.
34. (Currently Amended) A resource manager for reserving network resources within an IP network, wherein said resource manager ~~comprises~~ comprises:  
means for reserving resources for an application or a group of applications within

a time interval defined by a start-time and a ~~stop-time~~, stop-time, ~~said start-time being later than a current time~~; ~~stop-time~~, characterised in that said resource manager comprises

means for guaranteeing said resources between said start-time and said ~~stop-time~~, stop-time; and

means for keeping said resources for the application after said stop-time has expired if said application still needs the resources wherein said resource manager comprises means for keeping a list of active reservations that have expired after said stop-time.

35. (Currently Amended) Resource manager according to claim 34, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ all resource reservations are ~~utilising~~ utilizing a common pool of resources.

36. (Currently Amended) Resource manager according to claim 34, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ said resource manager comprises means for allowing the each application client to set individual start-time and stop-time for said application.

37. (Currently Amended) Resource manager according to claim 34, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ said resource manager comprises means for setting individual start-time and stop-time for each application.

38. (Currently Amended) Resource manager according to claim 34, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ said resource manager comprises means for setting said start-time to the current time.

39. (Currently Amended) Resource manager according to claim 38, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said resource manager comprises means for setting said stop-time to the current time.

40. (Currently Amended) Resource manager according to claim 34, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said resource manager comprises means for setting said stop-time to infinity.

41. (Currently Amended) Resource manager according to claim 34, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said resource manager ~~comprising~~ comprises means for basing the ~~charging~~ guaranteeing of said resources on ~~[[the]]~~ an amount of guaranteed resources.

42. (Currently Amended) Resource manager according to claim 34, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said resources are related to the bandwidth.

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Currently Amended) The resource manager according to claim 34, wherein said start-time comprises a time value, the time value greater than a current time, is set to a time in the future.